

Progress report on The Beatles in Paris

Fiery French fans make it a fabulous second week!

FIERY and enthusiastic fans and long queues —this was the scene in Paris during the second week of The Beatles' fabulous season at the Olympia. In fact, the four Liverpool boys are doing even better than ever in the French capital.

Things have changed since their tough, first night audience, however, and it's now the young and enthusiastic Parisian fans who are storming the ramparts of the Olympia!

The Beatles, themselves, have noticed the difference. Ringo told me: "This is not the same thing at all. We are getting a splendid reception but, of course, the audience is different."

Hostility

Some French newspapers displayed hostility towards The Beatles' early concerts but this has made little difference. The hostility was not based upon the music or the talent of The Beatles but on the fact that four young English boys had something that the French idols simply did not have.

Talk to the fans and you will get the real feeling towards The Beatles—everyone I spoke to thought they were terrific.

The four Beatles have been spending their time mainly by sleeping late and stealing a few hours to see something of Paris itself.

Whenever they go out they are recognised—but they are never attacked. And they all agreed with a statement made by one

From
Henry Kahn
in Paris

Beatle that it was "a pleasure not to have our ties snatched off."

In fact, they have made such an impact on the French capital that they have been recognised in some most unlikely places.

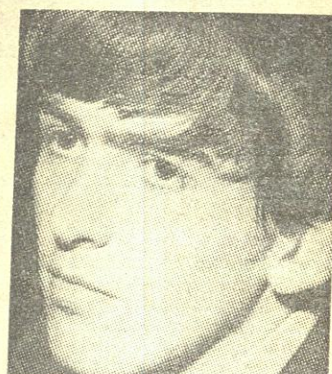
When they penetrated the Montmartre jungle and climbed the famous hill to the "Place" famed for its painters, I doubted whether the artists who wield brushes and palettes would recognise the four idols of the pop world.

But I was wrong—they were recognised. Within a few minutes, George and Paul were photographing the painters and the painters were painting The Beatles.

Suddenly one bright artist produced a canvas showing The Beatles in action—but they'd never have recognised it if the



JOHN



GEORGE



PAUL



RINGO

painting hadn't been marked with their names!

The Beatles have also managed a visit to the top of the world-famous Eiffel Tower—and a late-night trip to the Blues Club where American blues artist Memphis Slim is performing.

Sensation

They created a sensation at the club, but declined all invitations to sing a number.

And perhaps the most unusual thing about The Beatles' visit is the tremendous success of Beatle wigs in Paris stores. They are selling at around 30s. and everyone is buying them—from the young people to elderly folk who insist they are for their grandchildren!

WATCH OUT! HERE COMES EX-BEATLE PETE BEST

JOHN, Paul, George, Ringo—watch out! There's an ex-Beatle close behind you. Or he may be soon, if Decca's plans to go places with a rival Liverpool sound take off for Chartsville.

New "white hope" Mersey-beater is really one-time Beatle Pete Best. Pete's the lad who bowed out for Ringo who slid into that Beatle drum chair in the summer of 1962.

When he left The Beatles, Pete, for a while, backed singer Lee Curtis. Then, just four months ago, he formed his present group—The Pete Best All Stars. Completing the outfit are Tony Waddington (lead guitar), Wayne Bickerton (bass guitar) and Tommy McGuirk (rhythm guitar).

One day they decided to take a crack at the big-time recording world. So they all travelled to London for an audition with Decca's Mike Smith.

"We did our own stuff," says Pete, "then went back home—and held our breath."

"Results came sooner than we ever dreamed! By express delivery came a contract. Now, all we're waiting for is to hear from Mike Smith when we can cut our first session."

Laurie Henshaw